

STATEWIDE PRISON INQUIRY DEMANDED

Assemblyman Fish Offers a Resolution in Behalf of Osborne's System.

JUNKETING IS ATTACKED

ALBANY, Jan. 10.—Investigations of various alleged abuses in the administration of the State government from Albany to the Panama-Pacific Exposition were requested in a flood of resolutions which poured into the Assembly last night. The Legislature met for its first business session of the new year.

Assemblyman Hamilton Fish, Jr., of Putnam introduced a resolution providing for the investigation of the prisons, declared he intends to make the subject of the State prisons a real issue this year and will fight to the end.

Mr. Fish opened the way for a prison investigation with the introduction of a bill providing for a commission of five members to be appointed by the Governor with full powers. The commission is to receive \$20 a day while employed and to report on the entire prison situation in the State within thirty days after appointment. Mr. Fish introduced this resolution:

"That it is the judgment of this House that there should be a commission of five members to be appointed by the Governor to investigate the prisons of the State and all matters pertaining thereto."

Mr. Fish's Object.

"The primary object of my resolution," said Mr. Fish, "is to lay the foundation for legislation for a better administration and to bring about prison reform. I wish to serve to lay bare the existing conditions of prison officials and certain authorities to railroad as far as possible."

Joseph M. Callahan, the Democratic leader, introduced a resolution requesting the State Comptroller to do no more than a list of all moneys spent during the past year without specific data and the names of officials receiving salaries from the law provided for by the State. Mr. Callahan introduced a resolution asking the Comptroller to inform the Assembly which if any of the State officials or members of the Legislature have received any money from the State for the Panama-Pacific Exposition Commission without specifically authorizing an appropriation for such purpose.

Assemblyman Abraham Shipchoy, Socialist, introduced a resolution requesting the State Comptroller to investigate the minimum wage problem. The resolution provides for a commission of five members to be appointed by the Governor with full powers. The commission is to receive \$20 a day while employed and to report on the entire prison situation in the State within thirty days after appointment. Mr. Fish introduced this resolution:

Minimum Wage Inquiry.

Assemblyman John J. Ryan of Manhattan introduced a resolution providing for a committee of Senators, Assemblymen and citizens to investigate the minimum wage problem. The resolution provides for a commission of five members to be appointed by the Governor with full powers. The commission is to receive \$20 a day while employed and to report on the entire prison situation in the State within thirty days after appointment. Mr. Fish introduced this resolution:

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BRACKETT TO FIGHT HARD TO AID RILEY

Sensations Expected if Governor Summarily Removes Prison Head.

HEARING MAY BE LIVELY

ALBANY, Jan. 10.—Edgar T. Brackett had a long conference to-night with John B. Riley, State Superintendent of Prisons, who will appear before Gov. Whitman at noon tomorrow to answer charges, made by the Governor, that Supt. Riley ordered the transfer of prisoners from Sing Sing to Dannemora without consulting Warden Kirchway of the Governor.

Senator Brackett has prepared a document of two or three thousand words, setting forth an elaborate defense. It is believed that it contains some fiery touches. Senator Brackett declined to make known to-night just what course he would pursue. He knows Gov. Whitman can conduct the hearing as the Governor sees fit and remove Supt. Riley without much ado. In that event, it is said, Senator Brackett will issue a statement laying bare the whole prison situation from Riley's viewpoint and containing allegations of a sensational character.

All that Senator Brackett would say to-night, however, was that Supt. Riley demanded only a fair trial and expected to get it, and that it was not merely a question of a State official losing his job. Important principles were involved, he said, and he intended to do all in his power to have them safeguarded. Senator Brackett represented Austin Lathrop, who was State Superintendent of Prisons in Gov. Morton's time.

It is a coincidence that a man from Supt. Riley's town of Plattsburg was a complainant in the case against Lathrop for alleged maladministration. Gov. Morton referred the charges to Elen R. Brown, the present Republican leader of the State Senate, who is a special commissioner, who, after hearing covering several weeks, decided in favor of the accused official, and he was not removed from office.

Senator Brackett said he would not discuss the possibility that Gov. Whitman would name a special commissioner to investigate the case. He added that it would not be objectionable to him if the Governor could afford the time to personally conduct the hearing. He also said that he would not discuss the possibility that Gov. Whitman would name a special commissioner to investigate the case.

OSBORNE IN MOVIES.

Sing Sing Warden Is Shown in Convict Garb.

Thomas Mott Osborne doing the look-alike at Auburn prison is the latest moving picture attraction. But he can't be seen at the "movie" houses. The three reel production "A Week at Auburn" and some other reels made at Sing Sing, shown last night at the Washington Irving Hotel, were permitted to be taken only on condition that they should never be used for amusement. The pictures, which are the star attraction of an exhibit being held this week under the auspices of the Joint Committee on Prison Reform at the Russell Sage Foundation Building, 130 East Twenty-second street. They were witnessed by an audience limited only by the size of the huge auditorium and long after the doors closed men and women were begging to be let in.

When the pictures were shown, the parole commission talked for an hour before the pictures were shown. The parole reformers in New York City and the home office to accompany them, and the parole commission could be let alone to try experiments."

"As Commissioner of Correction I was concerned sharply because I didn't want to see the 'movie' houses," he said. "I learned that it is better to show unless you are in a position to turn out of office all those who think you are going to do it."

"Blackwell's Island ought to go, just as much as Sing Sing, but in New York we are caught between the people who want reforms and the people who cry out against increased taxes. It is a pity, though, that some of the money spent in investigating can be spent in improvements. If all the cases used by commissions in investigating Sing Sing had been laid out on modern buildings we'd have a new Sing Sing now."

Ward Osborne was the star of the pictures. First he appeared, loudly applauded by the audience, in the Sing Sing pictures as warden, moving among the Mutual Welfare League men and sitting at his desk; and then he was seen discussing with reforming friends his plan of going as prisoner to Auburn, and finally going there and getting into prison clothes.

The pictures will be shown every afternoon and evening this week at 109 East Twenty-second street, where also there will be speeches by Mr. Osborne, George W. Kirchway, Maude Miner and others.

Today at 2:45 P. M. there will be a talk by Dr. Frank Moore, superintendent of the New Jersey State Reformatory, and this evening at 8 o'clock Adolph Lewinsohn, chairman of the National Committee of Prisons and Prison Reform, will speak. The exhibit at 130 East Twenty-second street is free.

CHOATE HEADS OSBORNE RALLY

Will Preside at Protest Meeting in Carnegie Hall.

Joseph H. Choate will preside at the meeting to be held in Carnegie Hall next Monday evening to indorse the prison reform work of Thomas Mott Osborne and to protest against his indictment by the Westchester county Grand Jury.

Among the speakers will be Adolph Lewinsohn, Judge William H. Wadhams, George W. Kirchway, Francis Lynde Stetson, George Gordon Battle and Miss Lillian Wald. The citizens committee includes Felix Adler, Henry de Forest Baldwin, Walden Hill Brown, Herbert S. Carpenter, John J. Chapman, William Hamilton Childs, R. Fulton Cutting, Miles M. Davidson, the Rev. Percy Slickney Grant, Hastings H. Hart, Hamilton Holt and Jerome H. Green.

Adolph Lewinsohn, Judge Wadhams and Robert Erskine Ely, the committee of arrangements, are distributing tickets free through headquarters at 147 West Forty-eighth street.

Osborne Goes to See Cropsy.

Thomas Mott Osborne visited District Attorney Cropsy of Kings county yesterday morning and was with that official for more than an hour. He is to appear at the meeting held at Carnegie Hall to-day.

It is believed that Mr. Osborne, who was accompanied by another man, called on the Kings county District Attorney for purposes connected with the preparation of a defense. Mr. Cropsy conducted the Sing Sing inquiry which revealed the joy rides of Convict David A. Sullivan, former president of the United Bank, and resulted in the removal of Mr. Osborne's predecessor.

It's not enough to look at it—look into it!

As the biggest building in the world, the Equitable is well worth looking at, and as the best building proposition in town, it is well worth looking into. Do not be satisfied with merely contemplating the magnitude of its size. Come in and we will show you the extraordinary character of its equipment and the sound reasonableness of its rental cost.

Equitable Building Corporation

120 Broadway

GREGORY LEANS TO EFFICIENCY LOWERS NEW N. H. HEARING ROADS' DEATH ROLL

Question Will Be Discussed by Cabinet—Batts to Report To-day.

WASHINGTON GETS DATA

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—While no formal decision has been reached by the administration as to the course to be followed in the case of the New Haven directors, about whom the jury in New York disagreed, it was apparent to-day that Government officials are at present disposed to call for another trial. This official statement was given out by the Department of Justice.

The Department has not before it some details it desires in respect to the New Haven cases, but probably within the next few days will announce its attitude.

Mr. Batts, special counsel, who conducted the prosecution for the Government, is expected here to-morrow for a conference with the Attorney-General. He will bring copies of the Judge's instructions to the jury and other data bearing on the decision of the case which are to be considered by the Attorney-General in reaching his decision.

It was said that the Attorney-General probably would take the case up with the President before issuing an announcement. In fact the entire matter probably will be discussed at a Cabinet meeting before a decision is reached. Attorney-General Gregory established his personal inclination in favor of the special counsel in charge of the New Haven case during the tenure of Attorney-General McKeynolds and was largely because of his grasp on the intricacies of the case that the President named him to succeed Mr. McKeynolds. Many believe that Mr. Gregory's personal inclination therefore will be to call for new trials.

BATTS REPORTS TO-DAY.

OF for Washington for a conference with Gregory.

The special counsel which conducted the prosecution of the case against the former directors of the New Haven railroad in the trial concluded on Sunday afternoon expect to confer with Attorney-General Gregory in Washington to-day on the steps to be taken in respect to the five defendants on whom the jury could not agree as a verdict. The future of the entire New Haven case, it is believed, will depend on that conference. Neither R. L. Batts of Texas, chief counsel for the Government in this case, nor Frank M. Swacker, his assistant, from Missouri, will venture any predictions.

On the other hand it is the confident opinion of counsel for the ex-directors who still face trial on the charge of conspiring to monopolize the transportation facilities of New England that William Rockefeller, Charles M. Pratt, Charles P. Brooks, Lewis Cass Leary and Edward D. Robbins will not be called again to answer the charge against them. Both counsel and defendants seemed satisfied yesterday with the outcome of the long trial, it is up to the Government to make the best of it.

Mr. Batts and Mr. Swacker and probably Assistant United States Attorney William P. Stearns, who will go to the trial to-day, will report in detail on the recent trial. Mr. Batts expects to proceed thence to his home in Texas. There is not taken to indicate, however, that in the event that the five defendants are again called to trial Mr. Batts will not lead the Government's legal forces. It was said for the Government yesterday that an effort would be made to move for another trial as early as March, but at best is only a hope as far as Mr. Batts and Mr. Swacker are concerned.

Royal Victor, counsel for Charles E. Brooks, one of the defendants on whom the jury disagreed, said yesterday that the verdict was satisfactory; that after four years of almost constant denunciations of the New Haven road it was all that could reasonably be expected from twelve jurors. Incidentally Mr. Victor, in response to inquiries, said he believed that the present jury system was not adequate for the consideration of such extraordinary economic cases as that presented in the New Haven case, although he said the outcome of the present trial was a remarkable instance of a jury's fairness.

Several names were presented to the President to-day, but he informed his visitors that he had a long list of men under consideration and that he was far from closing his mind upon the merits of any of them.

Roosevelt Withdraws Again Requests His Name Taken of Michigan Primary Ballot.

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 10.—The following request was received by Secretary of State Vaughan to-day from Col. Roosevelt:

"I desire to have you withdraw forthwith my name as a candidate in the Presidential primaries to be held in Michigan on the first Monday in April. The request will be granted."

WILSON TO SELECT JOHNSON AS NEW YORK POSTMASTER

Capital Expects Appointment To-day—Agreeable to Tammany.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—It is practically certain that Joseph Johnson, who managed Edward E. McCall's campaign for Mayor two years ago, will be the next Postmaster of New York city. The appointment will be settled to-morrow at a conference between the President and the Postmaster-General, but Mr. Johnson has been tentatively selected. He is one of the candidates who have been strongly indorsed by Senator O'Grady and his appointment will be acceptable to the Tammany organization. It will be the first important Federal appointment that has gone to Tammany in many months.

Charles F. Murphy has not indorsed Mr. Johnson or any other candidate. It is known, however, that he would resent the naming of any one who had been actively identified with an element in the Democratic party that has been fighting him.

In naming Mr. Johnson the President also will give evidence of his desire to respect the wishes of Senator O'Grady.

Joseph Johnson, Jr., who was at one time a newspaper man, has been active in politics for several years and has held public office most of the time. In 1902 he organized the Order of Acorons of which he was the Great Oak, a non-theatrical organization that worked for the election of Seth Low for Mayor. Afterward he opened the Subway Tavern at Bleecker and Mulberry streets, while the support of the late Bishop Potter.

In 1905 Mr. Johnson and the Acorons supported McCall for Mayor. After the election the Great Oak got a \$4,000 place under Controller Metz. In 1910 Mayor Gaynor induced Fire Commissioner Johnson to appoint him Deputy Fire Commissioner, a position he held until June, 1911, when Mayor Gaynor made him the Commissioner, to succeed Rhineclauder Waldo, who became Police Commissioner.

Mr. Johnson, who was one of the managers of Mayor Gaynor's campaign, became the campaign manager in 1913 of Judge Edward E. McCall, Tammany candidate for Mayor. After the defeat of McCall, Johnson was out of public office for a time. In his valedictory to the Fire Department he thanked Charles F. Murphy for unwavering support that procured him his appointment both as Deputy Commissioner and Fire Commissioner. On leaving the department he had a brief experience in the insurance business.

On May 27, 1914, he was appointed chief of the transit bureau of the Public Service Commission at \$7,500 a year, the same salary which he received from the city when Fire Commissioner.

During the year the report says that in addition to the handling of a large current business the commission has disposed of all old cases, has released nearly \$500,000 tied up in a dispute with the New York Central Railroad over payment for the elimination of Yonkers grade crossings and has increased the number of passengers from 1914 to 1915 by 100,000. Of these twelve were killed at grade crossings.

ONLY NINE KILLED.

Fatilities for Year Establish New Low Record.

ALBANY, Jan. 10.—Only nine passengers were killed during the past year on the steam railroads of the State, according to a report of the up-State Public Service Commission transmitted to the Legislature to-night. In no case did death result from an accident to trains. This is the smallest number of passenger deaths on steam railroads recorded in years. The 1914 report of the commission citing fourteen and the report of the preceding year fifty-one.

High speed electric railroads of the State did not kill a single passenger during the year. Increased efficiency and watchfulness of employees is credited by the commission with the favorable showing. The only class of deaths on steam railroads which did not reveal a material decrease for the year was that of trespassers.

The net income available for dividends of street railway corporations has fallen off, the division of statistics reports, due to decreased gross revenue and increased taxes. The division finds that dividends for the last three years only have been maintained by drawing on accumulated surplus.

Electric corporations show a slight reduction of property and gas corporations a decided retrogression, while corporations doing business in both fields show a gain. There is a slight reduction in the revenue of telephone corporations, due to increased taxes and expenses.

The grade crossing division reports that one-half and the city of New York, the one-half eventually will be needed to complete the elimination work now in hand. Summarizing its accomplishments during the year the report says that in addition to the handling of a large current business the commission has disposed of all old cases, has released nearly \$500,000 tied up in a dispute with the New York Central Railroad over payment for the elimination of Yonkers grade crossings and has increased the number of passengers from 1914 to 1915 by 100,000. Of these twelve were killed at grade crossings.

Gold Imports \$1,000,000.

Gold imports amounting to about \$1,000,000 arrived in New York on the White Star liner Adriatic, consigned to New York banks.



Joseph Johnson.

THE EQUITABLE OFFICE BUILDING CORPORATION

ANNOUNCES THE ELECTION OF

MR. GEORGE T. MORTIMER

AS PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY

MR. MORTIMER WILL GIVE HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE EQUITABLE BUILDING

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, JANUARY 10th, 1916

GROUT APPEAL RUSHED; PROTEST BY CROPSY

District Attorney Finds It Moved Up 140 Numbers on Court Calendar.

Charging that the appeal of Edward M. Grout, convicted president of the defunct Union Bank, had been advanced 140 numbers without his knowledge, District Attorney Cropsy asked Justice Thomas, Rich, Mills and Putnam of the Appellate Division in Brooklyn yesterday whether they had already made up their minds to transfer the case to another department. His remarks carried a strong intimation that Grout's lawyers had been permitted to make arrangements with the Appellate Division without giving notice to the District Attorney.

The four Justices, sitting without three of their associates who had felt that it would be had to take part in the case of a former associate with Grout and his brother Paul, were quick to deny that there had been any consultation with Grout's attorneys for any irregularity so far as they were concerned.

"If this case is not in its right place on the calendar," said Justice Thomas, "we will put it there. It should be treated like any other case, and it will be heard here unless propriety requires it to go somewhere else. I may say that this case has not been discussed. No one has a right to speak for this court, if it has been done it was without authority."

Explanations and argument followed. Dean Potter, of counsel for Grout and a member of the Grout law firm, offered to assume responsibility for the statement that the case would be transferred, but Mr. Cropsy said that Stephen C. Baldwin, chief of counsel, had made the statement to him. Mr. Potter then suggested that the discussion precipitated by Mr. Cropsy warranted transferred and Mr. Cropsy retorted that no court should evade a task, no matter how disagreeable.

At this point Chief Clerk Byrne assumed responsibility for advancing the case 140 numbers and how it came about, incidentally reading from the calendar.

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CRIMINAL CODE IN VINDICATION OF THIS ACTION

Finally a motion for a change of venue was taken under advisement. District Attorney Cropsy stating that he would be unable to argue the case for at least a month.

New Order on Automobile Rear Lights Is Issued.

Two traffic officers were stationed at Forty-seventh street and Eighth avenue and Forty-eighth street and Eighth avenue last night carrying out a new order, which requires the numbers and rear lights on all automobiles to be visible within fifty feet.

The officers signalled each other when a car passed with dim rear lights or when the numbers were obscured with mud. No arrests were made, but all were warned to comply with the order.

WHITE SILKS

A Washable Taffeta that will not lose its lustre after washing is particularly attractive. Yard wide, \$1.19.

A heavy Crepe de Chine for underwear, 40 inches wide, \$1.39 or \$1.75 the yard.

White Messaline, yard wide, for lining or trimming, 84c.

Corduroys (washable), wide or narrow wale, for sport suits, coats, skirts, 40c, 65c or 95c.

Prices during the White Sale are more than ever attractive!

Bloomingdale's

50th to 60th St. Len. to 3d Av.

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